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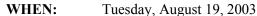
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MEDIA ALERT – PHOTO AND INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITY

U.S. EPA DESIGNATES BEST WORKPLACES FOR COMMUTERSSM

Coalition announces 1st Annual List of the Greater Tucson Area's Best Workplaces for CommutersSM



9:45 a.m. – fun photo opportunities / interviews

10:00 a.m. – unveiling event

WHERE: University of Arizona McKale Memorial Center

Jim Click Hall of Champions - 1 National Championship Drive Free parking available in Cherry Avenue and 2^{nd} Street garage

WHO: Joel D. Valdez, Sr. V.P. Business Affairs, The University of Arizona

Steve Weathers, President, Greater Tucson Economic Council

Robert Walkup, Mayor, City of Tucson George Caria, General Manager, Sun Tran

Stephen Offutt, Manager, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

WHAT: A coalition of regional public service agencies focused on maintaining

the quality of life and positive economic growth in the Greater Tucson Area has joined with the U.S. EPA to honor employers as Best

Workplaces for CommutersSM.

The 1st annual list of employers **will be unveiled** for meeting the EPA's *National Standard of Excellence* by offering comprehensive commuter benefit packages such as employer-provided transit passes, carpool and

vanpool subsidies, and telework programs.

WHY: Tucson is the first city in Arizona and among the first few

metropolitan areas in the United States to participate in this national program. By meeting the *National Standard of Excellence* identified by the EPA, the Greater Tucson Area's Best Workplaces for CommutersSM are helping their employees and the community to improve air quality and decrease traffic congestion while meeting the challenges of

continued growth in the region.

VISUALS/INTERVIEW OPPPORTUNITIES

- Special guests arrive at event via Sun Tran.
- Commuters, vanpool/carpool members, bicyclists representing Best Workplaces for CommutersSM arrive at event.
- Alternative fuel vehicle carpoolers arrive at event.
- EPA representative discussing Tucson as first city in Arizona to launch program.
- PAG representative discussing Regional RideHome and Vanpool Incentive Programs.
- PAG representative discussing the Governor's Telework Partnership.
- Employer representatives from IBM, Raytheon, TEP, U of A and others discuss benefits.
- Congratulations and presentation of plaques to "Charter" Best Workplaces for CommutersSM.

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GTEC













Greater Tucson Area's Best Workplaces for CommutersSM Coalition